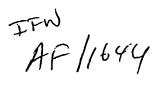


and Mail



Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Expedited Procedure - Art Unit 1644

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kasibhatla et al.

Appl. No.: 09/920,332

Filed: August 2, 2001

For: Method of Identifying **Immunosuppressive Agents**

Confirmation No.: 5774

Art Unit: 1644

Examiner: Huynh, Phuong N.

Atty. Docket: 1735.0470001/RWE/ALS

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated February 26, 2004 (hereinafter "Office Action"), Applicants submit the following Remarks. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-13, 28-31 and 36-44 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 28 and 31 being the independent claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-11, 28-31 and 36-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Evans, D. L. et al., Cancer Research, 54: 1596-1603 (1994) ("Evans et al.") in view of Porter, D. H. et al., Analytical Biochemistry, 123: 41-48 (1982) ("Porter et al.") and U.S. Patent No. 6,342,611 ("the '611 patent"). Office Action, pages 2-8. Claims 12-13, 43 and 44 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being